quickly as possible. In a number of cases the progress has been hampered on account of on receipt of complete data for the entire relevant period. The companies have been informed that in case they do not supply the data, the Government would be left with no alternative but to compute their liabilities on the basis of whatever data becomes available from wherever. Only after finalising the liabilities their cases would be referred to the Collector for realisation of amount due as arreas of land revenue. There is no question of flouting of directions in this regard. The details of liabilities worked out in each case were given in the statement referred to in reply to part (d) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 142 answered on 3.12.1992.

(c) and (f) The case of recovery against M/s Sandoz was referred to the Collector for realisation of amount due with interest as arrears of land revenue. Thereafter M/s Sandoz have got a stay Order from the Bombay High Court/ Supreme Court. Recovery certificate, would be sent to the Collector at the appropriate time in the other cases, keeping in view the stay orders, other orders etc. of the Courts.

Sale of Haldia Fertilizers Plant

2637. SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARI:
SHRI MD. SALIM:
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to sell the Haldia Fertilizer plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated liability of the project;

(d) the manner in which Government propose to put on sale the project; and

(e) the steps contemplated by Government to rehabilitate the employees that would be rendered unemployed as a consequence thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHIMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) While various possibilities of rehabilitating/restructuring of Haldia Fertilizer Project as part of the larger problem of rehabilitating the parent company, i.e. Hindustan Fertilizer corporation (HFC) are being explored, particularly in the context of reference to BIFR, no specific decision to sell the Haldia Project has been taken.

(c) Upto November, 1992 an amount of Rs. 697.46 crores has been incurred on the Haldia Fertilizer Project.

(d) In view of the reply to parts (a), (b) & (d) above, the question does not arise.

Quota of foodrains and essential commodities of the States

@2638. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to improve the management of foodgrains and other essential commodities through public distribution system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of shortfall in the total subsidy;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to reduce administrative overheads of total subsidy; and

(c) the break-up of the composition of total subsidy for the last three years?

THE MINISTER STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (e) Strengthening and streamlining of Public Distribution System (PDS) is a continu-

ous process. An advisory council on Public Distribution System has been constituted in which the Ministers in charge of Food and Civil Supplies in State Governments and U.T. Administrations are members. The demands made by the States, inter-se requirements of States/U.Ts and seasonal factors are taken into consideration while making allocations of PDS commodities.

The total subsidy borne by the Government on the distribution of foodgrains are as under:—

Year	Consumer subsidy on (Rs.ing per quintal)		sub-Carry-of foodgrains (Rs./quintal)	Total costsubsidy of FCI on foodgrains (Rs. in crores)
	Rice	Wheat		
1989-90	124.23	106.90	52.77	2476*
1990-91	109.03	104.54	61.68	2450*
1991-92	127.67	120.52	81.38	2850
1992-93	78.95	156.68	87.50	2500

(B.E.)

*including sugar

Continuous efforts are made by Central and State Governments to keep administrative overhead of distribution of PDS commodities under control through improved management of the System.

District consumer formus

2639. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many districts in the country do not have district consumer forums;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take inthis regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Of the 452 districts, the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forums (District Forums) have started functioning in 447 districts. In the remaining 5 Districts in Meghalaya, the Forums have been notified but have not started functioning. A new district has been formed recently in Arunachal Pradesh for which also approval has been given for constituting the Forms.

(c) The Government of Meghalaya has been requested to make the Formus functional immediately and the matter is being pursued with them.

Damand and supply of edible oil

2640. DR. NAR REDDY THULAST REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated gap in the demand and supply of indigenousedible oil during theoil year 1992-93; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to meet this gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN):(a) The estimated gap in the demand and supply of indigenous edible oil during the oil year 1992-93, based on the project oilseeds production and the projected demand of edible oils in the country is expected to be around 5 lakh MTs.

(b) (i) Import edible oil if the availability and prices of domestic oils so warrant;

(ii) Vigorously pursue the steps taken to increase the production of edible oils in the country so as to reduce the gap between demand and supplyof indigenous edible oils. Stepstaken so far are

1. Two centrally sponsored schemes namelyNational oilseeds Development Projects (NDDP) and Oilseeds Production Thrust Projects (OPTP) which were operating till 1989-90 have been merged during 1990-91 intoa single scheme, namely, Oilseeds Production Programmes (OPP). This scheme provides essential assistance to the States for production